SURAH OF AL-KAWTHAR

THE RESEARCH:
SURAH OF AL-KAWTHAR

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THE CONTENT

- ➢ THE REFERENCES
- ➢ THE BACKGROUND
- ✓ Themes and purpose
- ✓ Context of Revelation
  - Era
  - Context
  - Chronology
- ✓ Name and Classification
- ✓ Surah Overview:
- ➢ THE AYAT IN DETAILS
- ➢ THE EXERCISES

THE REFERENCES

1) https://quran.com/al-kawthar/info

2) https://quran.com/al-kawthar

BACK

THE BACKGROUND 1

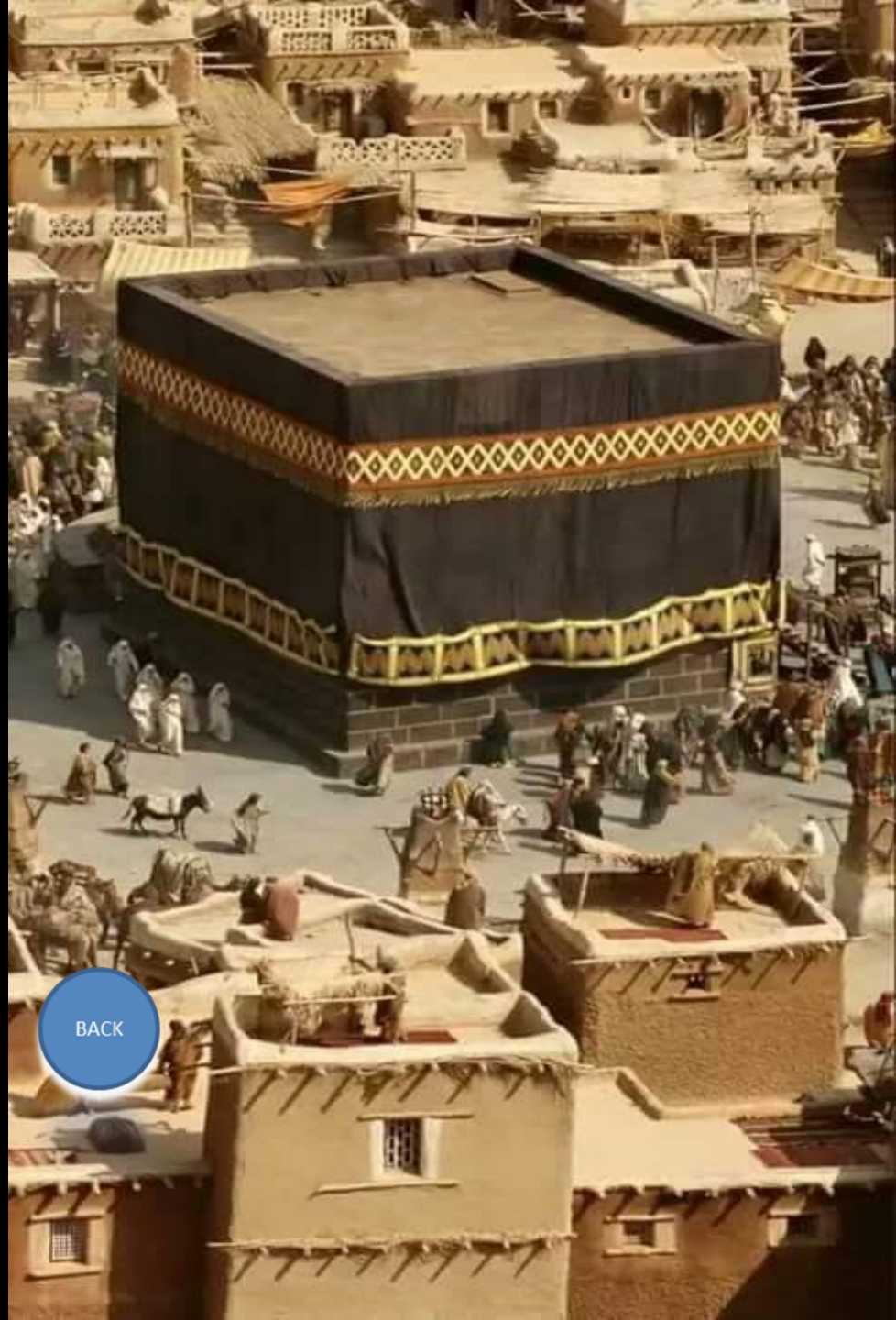
Adapted from Tafsir Ibn Ashur

Themes and purpose:

This surah is a declaration of divine grace and triumph for the Prophet (ﷺ). Its purpose is to announce the immense gift of Abundance, or a River in Paradise, commanding the Prophet (ﷺ) to dedicate all prayer and sacrifice to Allah alone. It serves to console the Prophet (ﷺ) by assuring him that his enemies, who mocked his lack of sons, are the ones who will be truly “cut off”.

Context of Revelation:

- Era: Makkan according to the majority, though some evidence supports the view that it was revealed in Madinah.
- Context: The surah was revealed to console the Prophet (ﷺ) after his sons passed away, which led a polytheist like Al-ʿĀṣ ibn Wāʾil to mock him by calling him abtar (one whose progeny is cut off).
- Chronology: According to the view that it is Makkan, it is counted as the 15th surah, revealed after Sūrat al-ʿĀdiyāt and before al-Takāthur.



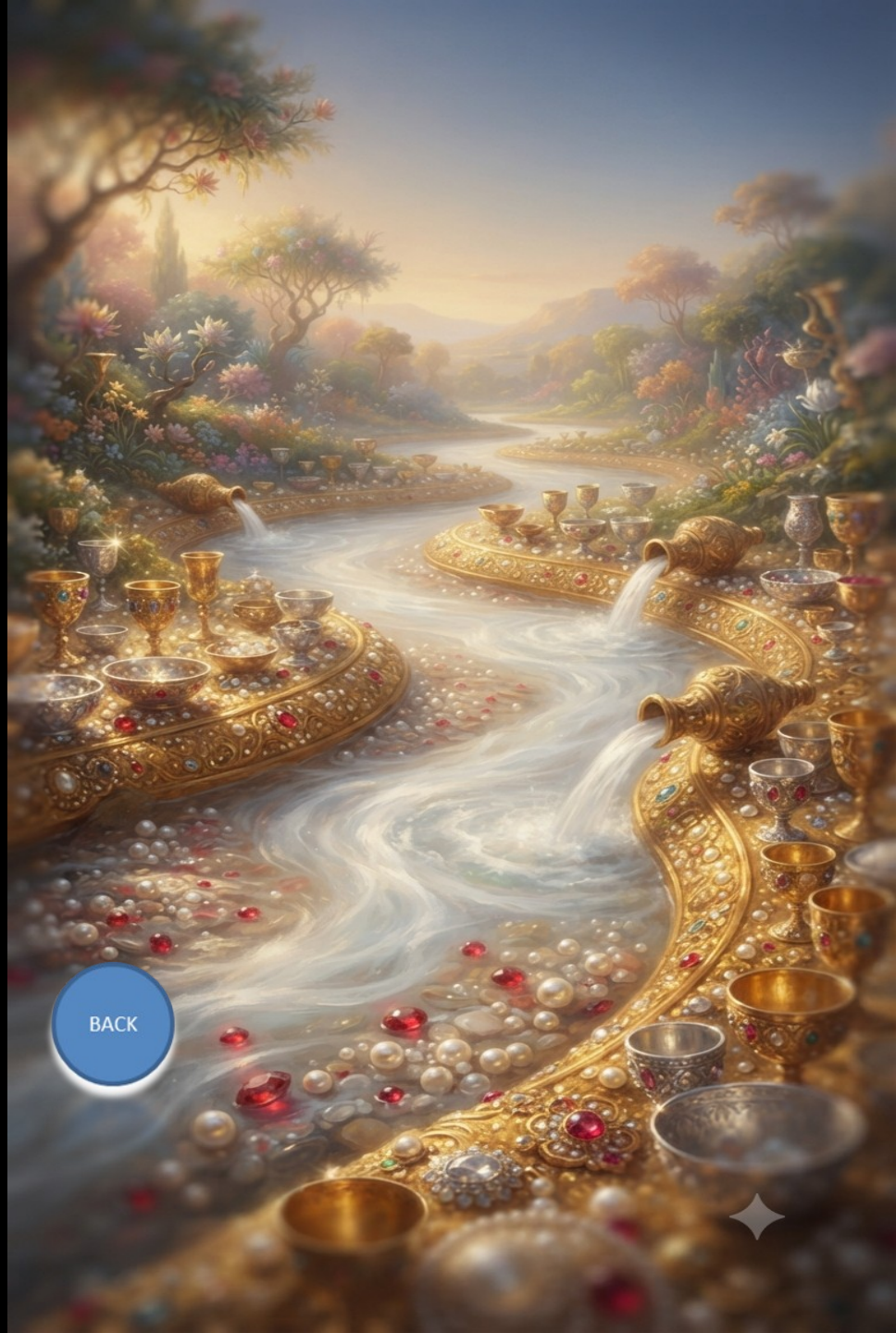
Name and Classification

- Name: The surah is known as "Sūrat al-Kawthar" (The Abundance) or "Sūrat Innā aʿṭaynāka al-kawthar" with the opening ayah, and also as "Sūrat al-Naḥr" (The Sacrifice).

- Classification: It is the shortest surah in the Quran in terms of words and letters.

Surah Overview:

- The Promise: Giving the Prophet (ﷺ) the glad tidings of al-Kawthar (Abundance) in this world and the Hereafter. [1]
- The Command: Ordering the Prophet (ﷺ) to show gratitude for this gift by dedicating all prayer and sacrifice solely to Allah. [2]
- Divine Defense: Assuring the Prophet (ﷺ) that his worst enemy, who reviled him, is the one who will be utterly cut off and whose efforts will be without fruit. [3]



THE AYAT IN DETAILS 2

إِنَّآ أَعۡطَيۡنَٰكَ ٱلۡكَوۡثَرَ ١

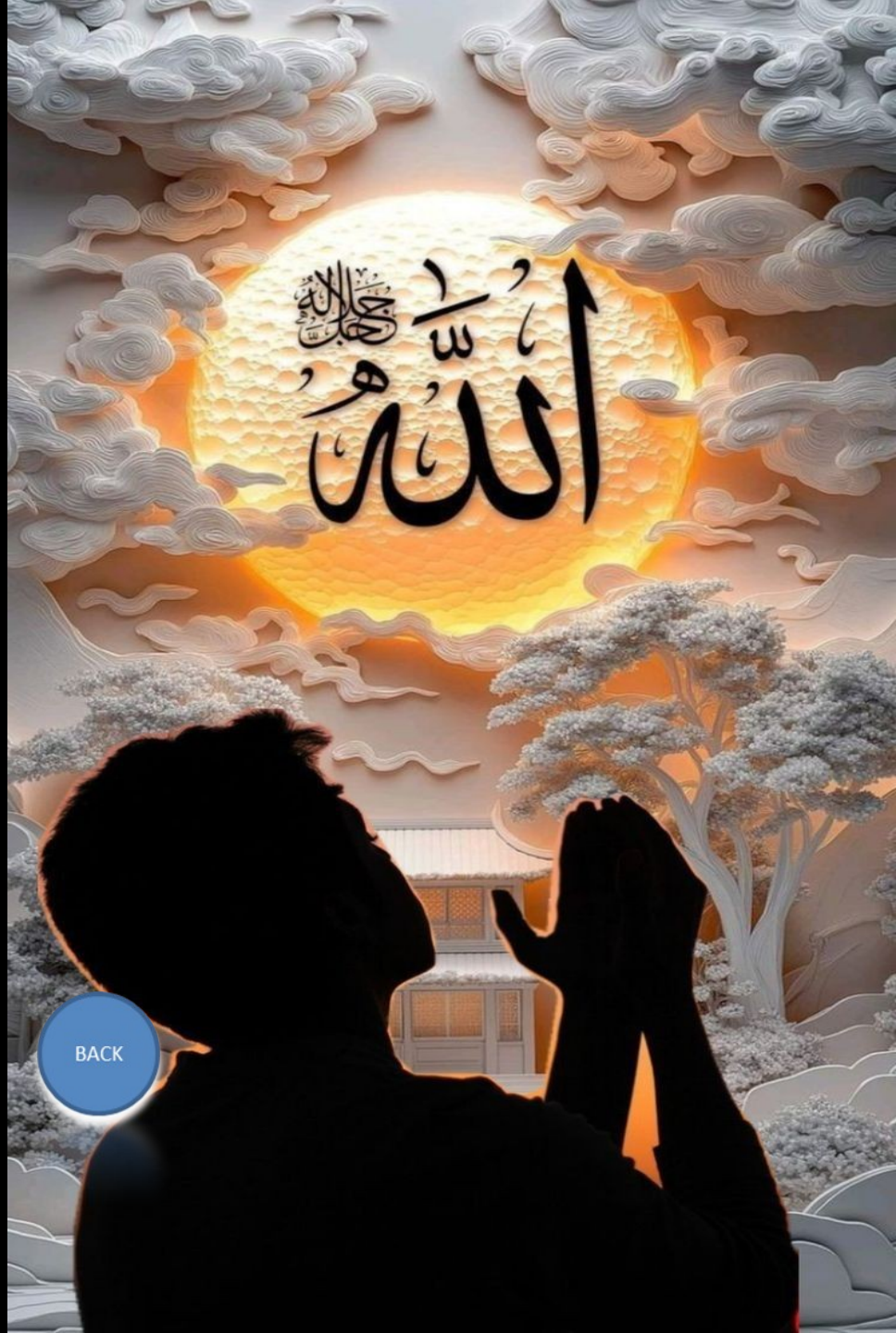
Indeed, We have granted you ﷺ abundant goodness.1

Footnote - 1

This includes a heavenly river as well other favours in both worlds.

فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَٱنْحَرْ ۝٢

So pray and sacrifice to your Lord alone.



إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ ﴿٣﴾

Only the one who hates you is truly cut off from any goodness.

EXCERCISES
BACK

1. Remembering (Recall)

1) How many verses are there in Surah Al-Kawthar?
2) What does the word Al-Kawthar mean?
3) Which blessing did Allah give to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in this surah?
4) What two commands did Allah give to the Prophet ﷺ after mentioning Al-Kawthar?
5) Who is described as being "cut off" in the last verse?
6) Is Surah Al-Kawthar a Makki or Madani surah?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

1) Why did Allah begin the surah by mentioning His great gift to the Prophet ﷺ?
2) Explain why prayer and sacrifice are mentioned together.
3) What does the last verse teach us about the enemies of Islam?
4) How does this surah comfort Prophet Muhammad ﷺ?
5) Why is gratitude the main lesson of this surah?
6) Explain the relationship between Allah's blessings and worship.

3. Applying

1) How can you show gratitude to Allah for the blessings He has given you?
2) What can you learn from the Prophet when people insult or criticize you?
3) How can performing your prayers sincerely help strengthen your relationship with Allah?
4) Give an example of a blessing that should encourage you to worship Allah more.
5) How can this surah remind Muslims to worship Allah alone?

4. Analyzing

1) Why do you think Allah first mentioned His blessing before giving the commands to pray and sacrifice?
2) Compare the attitude of a grateful believer with the attitude of someone who denies Allah's blessings.
3) How do the first and last verses contrast the Prophet ﷺ with his enemies?
4) Why is the word "Indeed" (إِنَّا) significant at the beginning of the surah?
5) How does each verse connect with the next to deliver one complete message?

5. Evaluating

1) Why is gratitude considered one of the greatest qualities of a believer?
2) Which lesson from this surah do you think is most important today? Explain your answer.
3) Why is responding to insults with patience better than seeking revenge?
4) Do you think people sometimes forget Allah's blessings? Give reasons for your answer.
5) Why should acts of worship be performed only for Allah?

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

1) Write a short paragraph explaining the main message of Surah Al-Kawthar in your own words.
2) Create a mind map showing the three main themes of this surah.
3) Imagine you are explaining this surah to a younger student. How would you summarize it in five simple sentences?
4) Write three practical lessons Muslims can apply from this surah in daily life.
5) Create a slogan or short motto that captures the message of Surah Al-Kawthar.
6) Design a poster illustrating the connection between Allah's blessings → Gratitude → Worship → Success.

و الحمد لله رب العالمين